

Husband's Name: **TOMMASO D'AMBROSA**

Born: 1762 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli  
 Married: 25 July 1812 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli  
 Died: 10 May 1834 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie

Father: GIUSEPPE D'AMBROSA (1717 to 25 February 1787)

Mother: FRANCESCA ZECCHINELI

Wife's Name: **MARIA FELICIA SACCO**

Born: 1775 Castello d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli  
 Died: 31 March 1867 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie

Father: GIOVANNI SACCO

Mother: CRISTINA PASTO (1756 - 30 July 1826)

Where: *Provincia di Terra di Lavoro*

Issue:	Born:	<i>Regno di Napoli</i>
1) DEAVINCENZA D'AMBROSA	9 June 1813	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) VITTORIA PETRONILLA D'AMBROSA	1 February 1815	Piedimonte d'Alife
<i>Regno delle Due Sicilie</i>		
3) MARIA VINCENZA D'AMBROSA	3 June 1817	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) RAFFAELE VINCENZO GREGORIO D'AMBROSA	11 March 1819	Piedimonte d'Alife
5) MARIA GIUSEPPA ROSA D'AMBROSA	24 December 1821	Piedimonte d'Alife
6) <b>MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA</b>	<b>10 July 1824</b>	<b>Piedimonte d'Alife</b>

The *Terrazzo Castello* was one of the historical sections of Piedimonte d'Alife. Other sections are the *antica*, the old historical core around the original castle and palace at the north end of town, the *vallata* or valley quarter which spreads out to the south and west and *Sepicciano*, originally a separate hamlet to the east. The castle was built to guard the mountain pass leading to the Matese Plateau and points north. The pass had been protected by a fortification at the north end of town but when the *Palazzo Ducale* was built in town, it required protection from a height so a castle was built on the escarpment that overlooked the Palazzo, the mountain pass and the town. In 1752 Castello became a separate administrative district. The name *Castello di Piedimonte* was adopted in 1801 for an indeterminate span of years before becoming *Castello d'Alife*. Though just a short distance separates the two *as the crow flies*, the only connection between the upper and lower towns was a long, wide stairway until it was paved in the 1970s. The town changed its name to *Castello Matese* in the 1970s.

Using the birth records of their children to calculate the year of birth for TOMMASO gives a 19-year-span but the age he gave when he married FELICIA is the one adopted herein. For FELICIA the span was 12 years; the year of birth used is based on her stated age at the birth of the first child as it was not stated on the marriage record. FELICIA's name is found only once as MARIA FELICIA SACCO, and that time is on the 1824 birth certificate of MARIA ROSA. It was commonplace to use *MARIA* as a type of honorific first name of more than one daughter; her second given name was the one she was known by and may be the only one to appear in later

records. In this case *MARIA FELICIA* may be the mother of *MARIA ROSA* at her birth, but she was *FELICIA*, the mother of *ROSA* after that.

TOMMASO was a farm laborer when they were married at the *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore*. Their notice of marriage was posted on 12 July and 19 July 1812. FELICIA's place of birth is given as *Castello* referring to the upper part of town where the castle stood. Their marriage certificate names the wife as FELICIA and FELICITA, *little FELICIA*, for unknown reasons. They had the required civil ceremony and an optional religious one. The civil ceremony was performed by NICOLA CENEI, mayor of Piedimonte d'Alife. The church record names the officiant as MOLTO REVERENDO ARCIPRETE and witnesses as D. FRANCESCO D'AMORE and ANGELO FIDANZA. TOMMASO's age is given as 50 years old at their marriage; FELICIA's age is not stated.

They lived on *Strada Gradella* for a time. FELICIA is mentioned as a seamstress in 1815. In 1816 TOMMASO was a miller. By 1821 they had moved to *Via Nova* (New St.). They were still living there when MARIA ROSA was born 3 years later. All their children were baptized at the *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore*. FELICIA was a spinner at the time of her daughter's marriage in 1845.

When TOMMASO died at home on *Strada Ponte dell'Osa*, he was working as a miller. FELICIA was still living on *Strada Ponte dell'Osa* when she died at home 33 years later. The death certificate states she was 82 years old, born in Castello, widow of TOMMASO D'AMBROSA and daughter of GIOVANNI SACCO and CRISTINA DI PASTO.<sup>1</sup>

#### Issue:

- 1) DEAVINCENZA D'AMBROSA: married GIOVANNI ZUCCHI and worked as a *lavandaia* or clothes washer. They were living at 4 *via Monteo Piela* when she passed away at 5 pm on Tuesday, 28 October 1884. The informants, ANGELO PALUMBO, 58, and PASQUALE GAGLIORE, 33, were both coachmen. They added a decade to her age when they stated 72, but they got her parents right, she being the daughter of TOMMASO, workman, and FELICIA SACCO, seamstress, both deceased.<sup>2</sup>
- 6) **MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA:** married **GIOVANNI MADDALENA** on 25 May 1845. (Continued in separate file)

Note: Maria Carmela Ramone, b c1836, daughter of Giuseppe Ramone and Vittoria d'Ambrosia, married Vincenzo DiMuccio, b c1846, on 28 Nov 1878; Vincenzo was 32 and in the military, son of Pasquale DiMuccio and Angela Onoratelli (Matrimonio, 1878, No. 37; image 411 of 3021, Film 007063123). Could be the daughter of Tommaso and Maria; also see Pasquale DiMuccio file.

#### ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Register of Deaths 1867, No. 55, familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 >; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

<sup>2</sup> Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morti, 1884, No. 175 ; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1764 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.